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# Northern Region News



Issue #12

A Newsletter For Employees and Retirees

December 26, 1990

## Regional News

### "Partitioning" Proposal Announced

**A**t a news conference December 14, Regional Forester John Mumma announced his plans to amend eleven forest plans in the Region to separate the Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) into roaded and roadless components. One portion of the ASQ would come from areas already roaded, the remaining portion from inventoried roadless areas. The two components would not be interchangeable. That is, the portion of the ASQ that is planned to come from roadless areas could not be taken from roaded areas.

This approach, referred to as "partitioning," will guarantee that roaded areas are not overcut in an attempt to make up for any shortfall from roadless lands. The lack of wilderness legislation to determine the management of roadless lands, combined with appeals on proposed sales, has prevented the Region from meeting its planned ASQ. Mumma said that with partitioning we will be better able to explain what went wrong if we don't meet our ASQ.

The Clearwater National Forest already uses the partitioning method in the forest plan. Mumma said that in hindsight, we should have used this method with all the Forests. The only other Forest not included in the proposal is the Custer National Forest, which does not have an inventoried roadless component of ASQ.

About 75 percent of sales are planned in roaded areas, and 25 percent in



*Regional Forester John Mumma presents FY 1990 accomplishments to reporters.*

roadless areas. Monitoring information from 1987 to 1990 shows that we've sold approximately 87 percent  
*continued on page 3*

## The Leading Edge

*by John Mumma,  
Regional Forester*

### "Let's Make 1991 A Great Year !!!"

**A**s we reach the end of another year, I want to thank all of you for your hard work in 1990. A glance at the Region's accomplishments for the year is proof of the effort that has been expended.

For example, in Fiscal Year 1990, the Region accomplished a total of 18,000 wildlife acres and 1,439 structures of wildlife habitat improvement. There were 785 fish acres and 1,090 structures accomplished in fish habitat improvement.

In FY 90 the Region sold approximately 780 million board feet of timber, which includes 21 mmbf in small sales and 68,000 cords of firewood. The Region's Coeur d'Alene Nursery, combined with other seedling contracts, produced 17,088,000 seedlings for Regional use in FY 90. Nearly 37,500 acres were planted in the Region in FY 90 (the 5-year average is 32,024 acres). Reforestation efforts, including planting, seeding, site prep and natural regeneration totaled over 59,000 acres.

We provided grazing for approximately 210,500 cows,

22,500 horses, and 40,000 sheep during FY 1990, contributing approximately \$896,500 in receipts to the U.S. Treasury.

Our smokejumpers made 634 jumps for fire suppression as compared to a 5-year average of 533 jumps. Regional firefighting efforts involved suppression of fires burning a total of 13,883 acres.

There were also some special and memorable highlights like the Regional Leadership Conference held at Big Sky, and the first National Wilderness Training for line officers at Ninemile Ranger Station.

We've been busy!

I am truly proud of our accomplishments. They represent a great deal of effort and ingenuity on the part of Northern Region employees; each of you in your own way has contributed. I look forward to working with you in 1991 - the Centennial year for the Forest Service, and I hope that each of you and your families had a happy and safe holiday season.

Let's make 1991 a great year!!!!



## Lookout Gets A "Facelift"

*by Madelyn Kempf, Public Affairs Specialist*

**T**his past summer the Bitterroot's Salmon Mountain Lookout, located on the West Fork Ranger District, underwent a "facelift" which resulted in replacement of shakes on the roof, repair/replacement of the stairs, catwalk and corner supports, scraping/painting of the exterior and reglazing/replacement of the windows.

In 1989, an inspection report showed that the aging lookout, one of the last "hip roof" lookout structures in the Northwest Region, was suffering from structural deterioration. The District decided that extensive repairs in the near future would be necessary to preserve the structure from further deterioration.

West Fork Ranger District personnel Dean Irwin, Mark Lagerstrom and Richard Reed worked on the lookout for about eight weeks. Other remodeling efforts include a new propane stove and propane lines, and a new wood stove built by Trapper Creek Job Corp. Last but not least, the outhouse was rebuilt.

Last year, the West Fork District made an agreement with the Salmon Mountain Volunteers to do the necessary repairs on the lookout. The Salmon Mountain Volunteers are a group of former lookouts who want to "man" the restored lookout during the fire season.



*Salmon Mountain Lookout, Bitterroot National Forest. Photo by Deidra Boggs.*

Salmon Lookout, one of the most picturesque lookouts in the Region, was originally built in 1921, and then reconstructed in 1950. Although the rebuilt structure falls short of the 50-year age limit for the Register of Historic Buildings, it is considered historically valuable and will be a likely candidate in 2001.

### Regional News

## Forest Plan Implementation Training Begins

*by Phoebe J. Patterson, Recreation Forester, Deerlodge National Forest*

**T**he comprehensive Washington Office-sponsored training course on Forest Plan Implementation will hit the Forests this winter. The course was put together through the intensive efforts of the Design Cadre, a group of 10 people of varying backgrounds from around the country. Doug Glevanik, Forest Plan Implementation and Environmental Coordination Group Leader, served on the Design Cadre from Region One.

Ironing out the overall objectives and priorities as well as course technicalities took the cadre almost a year of meeting regularly. Some of the underlying themes of the course will help make the link between NFMA (the National Forest Management Act) and NEPA (the National Environmental Policy Act), aiding us in implementing our forest plans, making successful decisions, and enhancing agency credibility. The above design illustrates the process being promoted by the Washington Office. It was developed from a very similar one originated in Region One.

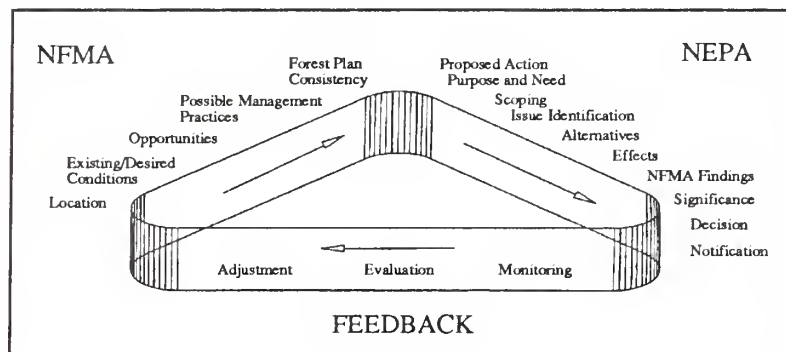
In October, the Design Cadre turned the course over to the Training Cadre, a collection of 34 employees from all Regions. Region One members of the Training Cadre are: Dan Mainwaring, environmental coordinator, Philipsburg District, Deerlodge NF; Phoebe Patterson, recreation forester, Deerlodge NF; Pattie Soucek,

resource assistant, Bozeman District, Gallatin NF; Terri Marceron, planning forester, Lewis and Clark NF; and Ann Puffer, hydrologist, Regional Office. The Training Cadre will be travelling in groups of six to Forests in all Regions over the next three years, conducting the week-long course for line officers and ID Team leaders and members.

A desired benefit of the WO-orchestrated training is that all units reached will receive the same message, enabling the agency to conduct a more unified dialogue and employ a consistent methodology throughout all Regions. Though the Washington Office is presently the sponsor of the

training, the goal is to eventually turn the training responsibilities over to the Regions.

The current proposal is for at least 20 Forests to receive a training session this Fiscal Year. Three Forests in Region One - the Helena, Deerlodge, and Idaho Panhandle - are tentatively scheduled to have the Forest Plan Implementation Course brought to them this winter. Ten sessions were originally requested by Forests in the Region, and the Regional Office is currently negotiating with the Washington Office for more than the three tentatively planned. Course attendance at each session will be strictly limited to 30 participants due to the nature of the training techniques used.



## News Briefs

### Need a Pack Train?

The Northern Region Centennial Pack Train committee will meet in January to finalize the schedule for work projects and special event appearances for the Region's Pack Train in 1991. Applications are due January 15. Anyone who submitted requests earlier should provide a formal request at this time. Requests should include name and type of event (i.e. parade, packing and minimum impact camping demonstration, or work project), place of event, and exact dates. Also please include a contact person, address, phone number, and any other pertinent information. Send your requests to Shirley Deschamps, Box 616, Ninemile Ranger Station, Huson, MT 59846 — or S.Deschamps:R01F16D04A.

Accommodations for personnel, housing and feeding arrangements for the animals and other logistics will be finalized after selections are made.

### "Desert Shield" Hits Home

Several Forest Service employees serving in the Reserves or National Guard have been called to active duty in Saudia Arabia as a part of "Operation Desert Shield." As of the printing of this newsletter, the following people have been called to duty:

**Ron Yates**, landscape architect, Lewis & Clark NF. Ron served with the Naval Reserve in the Washington D.C. area and has returned.

**Edward Kelley**, engineering tech for Deerlodge NF. Ed is with the Army Reserve and left for active duty September 17.

**Dick Schwecke**, resource assistant for Judith RD, Lewis & Clark NF. Dick serves with an Army Reserve water purification unit and was called to action September 28.

**Milo McLeod**, archeologist, Lolo NF. Milo is with the Army National Guard, in a public affairs detachment. He left December 10.

**William Bockstruck**, civil engineering tech for St. Maries District, Idaho Panhandle NF. Bill left December 10 with the Marine National Guard.

### Nez Perce NF Has Child Care Room

The Nez Perce NF has set aside a room in the supervisor's office where working parents can bring their children. It will be used for infant care, emergency situations, or "mildly sick" child care. The room, equipped with desk, chair, phone and DG terminal, is intended primarily for newborns to 6 months-olds. For info on the system being used to manage the room, contact Jenny Stephenson:R01F17A.

### A New "Fellow"

Bob Gibson, Gallatin NF Supervisor, was recently elected a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters. Said Gibson, "It's a fantastic way to top out a career. I consider it one of the greatest honors I've ever received, because it's my peers who elected me." Gibson plans to retire December 30 after 36 years with the Forest Service.

### Before You Throw It away, Read This . . .

Your old Forest Service artifacts, memorabilia, documents, publications, written material and records may have a better destiny than the trash can or hidden in a drawer. The National Forest Service Museum, which is to be located in Missoula, will provide a place for historical items which can then be appreciated by museum visitors for years to come. Although the museum is still in the planning stages, articles for it are being gathered now. Besides housing a display of historical artifacts, the museum will serve as a national repository for records, publications, and documents relating to the history of the Forest Service. The museum will be administered by a non-profit organization. For more information, contact Ed Heilman, secretary for the Museum's Board of Directors. Ed is also a Region One retiree. Any donations of artifacts, records, documents, etc. may be sent to Jud Moore at the Regional Public Affairs Office.

### Nez Perce NF Writer-Editor Publishes Book

Neal (Pete) Parsell, technical publications editor for the Nez Perce NF, doesn't get enough composing and word-smithing while at work. On his free time he writes books. His latest, *Knigh's Rule*, is about the sig-

nificance of wilderness today. It takes place on the upper Middle Fork of the Clearwater River and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness and presents many views through a variety of fictional characters. The book is available from the Northwest Interpretive Association outlet at the Nez Perce NF supervisor's office or from book stores. Pete also wrote *Major Fenn's Country*, an historical account of the Lochsa-Selway-Middle Fork country. Of his free-time writing, Pete says "It's a nice respite from EIS's."

### R.O. Folks Get Some Field Work

This fall some 30 Regional Office employees got an opportunity to leave their desks, paperwork and pencils, and get some fresh air when they volunteered for a manual labor assignment. Over a three-day period in October, employees from RnW&L, Eng and PP&B assisted Missoula RD, Lolo NF, by constructing new trail tread, installing erosion barriers, and removing stumps, shrubs and brush for the new Hellgate Canyon Trail east of Missoula. They also worked on Pattee Canyon Ski Trails, clearing vegetation and slash. Though the weather was cool and rainy, spirits were high, and work was fun, leaving most participants looking forward to another "field" opportunity in the future.

### Partitioning Proposal

*continued from page 1*

of the ASQ scheduled for harvest in in roaded areas, and 24 percent of that scheduled in roadless areas.

Deputy Regional Forester Chris Risbrudt said the Region will, in the future, ask Congress to set its annual timber sale targets and budgets separately for roadless and roaded areas.

The proposed amendments would require Forest Supervisors to monitor the amount of timber sold from inventoried roadless areas separate from roaded areas, and to notify the public of the results in an annual monitoring report. The report will also state the amount of inventoried roadless area removed from consideration for wilderness designation. This proposal would ensure that Forest Supervisors monitor exactly where implementation is in relationship to the forest plan.

Public comments on the proposal are invited through January 15. After review of the comments a final decision will be made.

Mumma also briefly reviewed the history of land management planning in the Region for reporters. He explained ASQ as the amount of timber that may be sold from an area over a given time period. In the case of forest plans, that time period is 10 years. Mumma displayed on charts the Region's accomplishments in all resources - minerals, reforestation, trail construction, wildlife and fisheries, timber stand improvement, and timber offered. He showed that the Region met or exceeded targets for minerals, reforestation, trail construction, wildlife and fisheries.

Mumma praised Forest Service employees, during the news briefing, as hard-working, dedicated individuals. He said, "How well the Region does is a reflection on all of us; we are a team." He continued, "We are a conservation organization, and we are going to do good land management."

## Plan For Nez Perce Trail Approved

by Jim Dolan, Special Areas Management,  
Regional Office

In 1877, Chief Joseph and four other chiefs of the Nez Perce Indian Tribe fled their homeland near the Wallowa Mountains of northeast Oregon, leading some 800 people and over 2,000 horses. They were being forced to a reservation as a result of a treaty signed between the Army and other Nez Perce Chiefs in 1863 - a treaty to which they had not agreed and refused to comply with. In negotiating with the Nez Perce, the Army accepted one of the Chiefs as the leader of the entire nation. In reality, the different bands did not recognize any one chief as their leader. Those bands who accepted and signed the treaty are known as "Treaty Nez Perce," and those who refused to negotiate, "Non-Treaty Nez Perce."

The flight began in the spring of 1877 and ended in surrender on a cold, wintery day on October 5, 1877, 1,170 miles and many battles later. This episode is regarded by historians as one of the most significant events in the history of the clashes between the Indians and the military in the West.

The route the Nez Perce Indians took was established as a National Historic Trail by Congress in 1986. USDA Secretary Clayton Yeutter designated an advisory council, chaired by Regional Forester John Mumma, to develop a comprehensive plan for the trail. The plan was approved by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service in November, and released to the public for review. The Nez Perce ("Nee Me-Poo") Trail will be managed under the leadership of the Forest Service. Nee-Me-Poo means "The People" in the Nez Perce language.

The Nez Perce traveled through northern Idaho crossing the Snake and Salmon Rivers and entered Montana at Lolo Pass. They turned south, following the Bitterroot and Big Hole Rivers, entering Idaho again near the town of Leadore. They skirted the Centennial Mountains and traveled east before entering Yellowstone Park at the town of West Yellowstone. There is some speculation about the exact route the Nez Perce took through the Park. They exited near Cook City.

The Nez Perce left the high mountain country near the mouth of the canyon of the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River, north of Cody, Wyoming, then proceeded north, entering the plains of eastern Montana just west of Billings. The fleeing Indians continued north crossing the Missouri River northeast of Lewistown and finally surrendered near the Bears Paw Mountains just south of Chinook, only 40 miles



Joining together for a memorial service at the Bears Paw site, where the Nez Perce Indians surrendered, are, from left: Regional Forester John Mumma, Horace Axtell, an elder of the Nez Perce Tribe, Soy Red Thunder, Advisory Council member for the Nez Perce National Historic Trail, and Allen Slickpoo, historian for the Nez Perce Tribe.

from their destination, Canada.

It was here that Chief Joseph gave his famous speech, ending with the words, "Hear me my chiefs! I am tired. My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever." Joseph was never allowed to return to his homeland and died in eastern Washington on the Colville Reservation, where some of his descendants, as well as those of the other Non-Treaty Nez Perce, now reside.

On October 5, 1990, Regional Forester John Mumma and his Advisory Council were invited to participate in a memorial service at the Bears Paw site. The ceremony was attended by descendants of Chief Joseph and other chiefs and tribal leaders; it was hosted by the City of Chinook and the Belknap Indian Tribal Council.

The trail will be dedicated next summer in the vicinity of Chief Joseph Pass on the Idaho-Montana border where the Nez Perce crossed into the Big Hole River drainage.

Editor's Note: A new book - *Following The Nez Perce Trail—A Guide to the Nee-Me-Poo National Historic Trail* - describes the Nez Perce Trail and its history. Written by Cheryl Wilfong, one of the Advisory Council members, it provides maps and a guide for travelers. It can be purchased through the Oregon State University Press, Waldo Hall 101, Corvallis, OR 97331-6407.

## Newsletter Guidelines

The Northern Region News is published by the Northern Region Public Affairs Office for employees and retirees. Following are guidelines for submitting stories:

- Articles should feature Forest Service employees and retirees involved in Forest Service activities and projects.
- Articles must be concise and timely. All articles are subject to editing, and may not be used if outdated, inappropriate, or if space does not permit.
- Photos should be black and white, glossy prints if possible.
- Send articles to D.Riebe:R01A (Data General) or Deanna Riebe, Northern Region Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807. The public affairs officer on your Forest may want to preview articles before they are sent. If so, please follow that process.

## Nez Perce National Forest

# Q'useyn'eisskit 1990

by Jeff Fee, Archeologist

The earth was saturated from a steady rain. It had begun the night before, continuing into the dawn of August 21. The air at nearly 6,000 feet along the Lolo Trail in the Bitterroot Mountains smelled of alpine fir, huckleberry brush, and wet soil.

An elder of the Nez Perce Tribe, the Seven Drum leader of the Nez Perce Longhouse group, stood facing the east with three other tribal members, careful to align themselves with the nearby rock pile (cairn) in the direction of the rising sun. The leader spoke in English, explaining that he was about to say a prayer in his native tongue after which he would sing the "Horse Song," a song sacred to the Longhouse group.

Horace Axtell, along with other tribal elders, has performed countless prayers and ceremonies over a variety of events for the tribesmen and some also for non-tribal members. Fred Trevey, Supervisor of Clearwater National Forest, requested the spiritual leader's presence during a trail ride along a portion of the Lolo Trail system where significant archaeological sites once used by the Nez Perce Tribe are located.

The trip was hosted by the Clearwater National Forest. Members of the Nez Perce Tribe, employees of Lolo National Forest, and Deputy Regional Forester John Hughes were invited to participate.

Three people from National Public Radio joined the group to record this historic event. It's an event that will go down in Forest/Tribal history as the first trip over the Lolo Trail in which Tribal and Forest folks rode together in friendship and fun to honor Nez Perce elders and offer respects to Nez Perce ancestors. It was also the first time National Forest personnel and a Native American tribe have come together to consider co-management of cultural resources on public lands.

The Lolo Trail system includes the most well-preserved segments of two National Historic Trails in the United States: the Lewis and Clark Trail and the Nee-Me-Poo Trail (the flight path of the Nez Perce in the Nez Perce War of 1877). It was also the main corridor along which bands of Nez Perce and their ancestors made summer migrations for hunting, gathering, and fishing. "Our people call this trail Q'useyn'eisskit" (pronounced "Koo-say-nay-iss-kit"), said tribal councilman and elder, Allen Slickpoo. He explained this to mean the migration over the road to the plains (in June) to hunt buffalo.

Supervisor Fred Trevey said, "What we want to emphasize is that the Lolo Trail system is a segment of one of America's oldest travel and trade routes that linked Columbia basin people with the northern plains people for perhaps thousands of years. Lewis and Clark crossed over this travel route in just a matter of a few days."

The first night in camp, a hard-driving rain began and never ended. On the second day, riders climbed back into wet saddles to complete a 17-mile ride in the mud, rain, and wind. "It's cold, wet and miserable," said Sandi McFarland, tribal member and cultural

resource coordinator, "but it beats the stress of being in an office. I love every minute of it."

*"... Something happened to all of us up there, something out of the ordinary, something we will never forget the rest of our lives."*

*Fred Trevey, Supervisor,  
Clearwater National Forest*

Visits to sites such as Indian Post Office, Indian Grave, and The Smoking Place revealed that these places each had their time and place in history and culture.

Forest employee Chuck Raddon, known as the "trail boss," led a discussion on trail management around the campfire that

night.

Steve Russell, a special guest of "Q'useyn'eisskit 1990" gave a presentation on the Lolo Trail and what it meant to him personally. Steve is now an associate professor at the University of Iowa. He spent most of his childhood in Weippe, Idaho, and has fond memories of traveling over the trail with his father and grandfather. His grandfather made countless trips over the route (1916-1920) leading



*Horace Axtell, an elder and tribal leader of the Nez Perce Tribe, on the Q'useyn'eisskit trail ride.*

pack trains. "I'm addicted to the Lolo Trail. Every spare minute of my time is in the effort of finding more and more information on this trail," said Steve. (He is sharing this information with the Forest.)

Tribal councilman Del White spoke for the tribe as he expressed appreciation for the opportunity to be a part of the trail ride. He said the tribe looks forward to the possibilities of co-management with the Forest Service.

As a result of this fantastic ride over the Lolo Trail, Nez Perce people and their culture have become an integral part of the Clearwater National Forest, and it has become apparent that the Clearwater National Forest will become more a part of the Nez Perce people and culture. Donna Powauke, tribal official and member of the trail ride, recently explained: "I think I can speak for everyone when I say it was a humbling experience." She added, "Already there is overwhelming interest for another trail ride next summer."

## Special Recognition

### Clearwater National Forest



*From left, Mike Wells, John Mumma, and Jack Crites.*

On November 16, two sale administrators from the Clearwater National Forest were honored as the first two fully certified sale administrators in Region One. **Jack Crites** of North Fork District and **Mike Wells**, Palouse District, were field-examined last summer by Regional teams, and granted full certification as a result of their excellent sale administration efforts.

The Sale Administration Certification Program was amended in FY 90 to include an exhaustive field examination to insure that land management objectives were being implemented properly on-the-ground. There are now four more fully certified sale administrators in the Region. Two are from the Clearwater NF - **Karl Dekome**, Powell District, and **Bob Cleveland**, Lochsa District. **Fred Raap**, Idaho Panhandle NFs and **Tom Maffei**, Kootenai NF, are also now certified.

### Idaho Panhandle National Forests

**\*\* Fernan Ranger District** received the Coeur d'Alene Beautification Award, Governmental Division, from the Coeur d'Alene City Council. The award was given in recognition of the way the new ranger station blends into, and enhances, the surrounding area and the city.

### Nez Perce National Forest

**\*\*Three Nez Perce NF employees** received special recognition recently for outstanding performance during the 1988 wildfire seige. **Dave Poncin**, fire staff officer, who served as Incident Commander at Yellowstone National Park, was recognized by the Park and the Forest for his professional excellence. **Steve Solem**, Clearwater District Ranger, and **Steve Williams**, Red River District Ranger, were both recognized for their innovative and risk-taking management styles.

**\*\*Michael J. Cook**, Forest engineer for the Nez Perce NF, was named Forest Service Management Engineer of the Year in November. He was selected by the Forest Service Director of Engineering from candidates from 156 national forests, 9 regional offices, and 9 experiment stations. His selection was based on significant contributions toward accomplishment of the agency's mission. Forest Supervisor Tom Kovalicky said of Mike, "He provides national leadership in the construction and maintenance of recreation trails. He gives water quality, anadromous fish and elk habitat priorities in the implementation of the forest plan; and he is a strong supporter of innovative concepts, new programs, and the wilderness resource mission."

### The Northern Region

**\*\*The Northern Region**, including the Regional Office and all Forests within the Region, has been awarded the SBA's (Small Business Association) District award as the "Agency of the Year" for the support of minority business enterprises. Winning this award automatically places the Region in the running to receive the SBA Region award.

The Northern Region was recognized for utilizing procurement and personnel staff to coordinate the activities needed to meet or exceed procurement preference goals, and for sponsoring outreach training and educational activities.

With leadership from the Northern Region, the minority small business program has a very good chance of continued success.

### Beaverhead National Forest

**Donna Brooks** and **Mike Ryan** were honored for their efforts in bringing Native Americans to work on the Beaverhead. Forest Supervisor Ron Prichard presented them with special Chief Joseph prints, and, as shown in the photo, **Earl Old Person**, chairman of the Blackfeet Tribe from Fort Hall, Idaho, presented Donna with a handmade blanket as an expression of appreciation for her work.



*Earl Old Person presents Donna Brooks with a handmade blanket.*

### Regional Office



*Photo by Mark Wiggins*

The tables are turned!!!! This time instead of giving an award, Regional Forester John Mumma is getting one. He accepted a plaque on behalf of the Regional Office Management Team for the outstanding health program established for RO employees. Sandi English, program assistant for RAWE, and a member of the Regional Office Wellness Committee, presented the award.

## Special Recognition

### Regional News

Texaco USA's Western Regional Land Department received the Regional Forester's Excellence Award in September for outstanding efforts in environmental and visual rehabilitation.

Between 1984 and 1988, Texaco removed miles of old and abandoned surface pipeline in the Charlson and Blue Buttes oil fields northeast of Watford City, North Dakota. Shut-in wells and roads in the area were abandoned and rehabilitated, and remaining surface lines are being replaced with underground lines. Well sites and tank batteries were repainted in earth-tone colors to comply with current Forest Service standards.

Chuck Wassinger, Director of Minerals & Geology for the Region, said Texaco employees at the Watford City Field Office exhibited outstanding cooperation by voluntarily following standards that exceed the lease requirements.



From left: Lynn Sprague, Director of Minerals & Geology, WO; Chuck Wassinger, Director, Minerals & Geology, Regional Office; Myron Hovet, Watford City Field Office of Texaco; and Larry Henson, Assoc. Deputy Chief, WO.

### Missoula Technology and Development Center

Tom Nettleton, engineer at Missoula Technology Development Center, has been awarded the 1990 George Award. The award is given each year by the Missoula Chamber of Commerce to individuals who have made significant contributions to the community. Tom received the award for his leadership on projects such as the Brooks Street and Reserve Street improvements.

Tom has also been instrumental in committee activities that include transportation planning model development, improved air and bus service, and evaluation of new highway interchanges. To top it off, Tom was elected to the Missoula Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors!!



Tom Nettleton displays the "George Award."

### Regional News

Chris Everett, attorney for the Office of the General Counsel in Missoula, accepted an award from Regional Forester John Mumma for her work on an ID Team. The team developed documents to provide guidance and clarification of new CFR regulations for oil and gas leasing. Other team members receiving awards were Randy Phillips, Ed Heist and Mark Weber, all of the Regional Office; Theresa Easterly, Rocky Mountain District, Lewis & Clark NF; Steven Prieve, Medora District, Custer NF; and Halcyon LaPoint, Custer NF supervisor's office.

The team developed a desk reference, a set of questions and answers about oil and gas leasing under the new regulations, and a Regional prototype EA.



Chris Everett, Office of General Counsel, accepts an award from Regional Forester John Mumma. Photo by Mark Wiggins.

### Beaverhead National Forest

Dillon's Job Service office has done an outstanding job referring qualified applicants to the Beaverhead NF. In appreciation, the Forest presented Linda Bloomquist (employment specialist for Dillon Job Service) and Dan Rummel (manager of the job service) with a laser-cut wooden plaque.

Linda Bloomquist and Dan Rummel of Dillon Job Service.



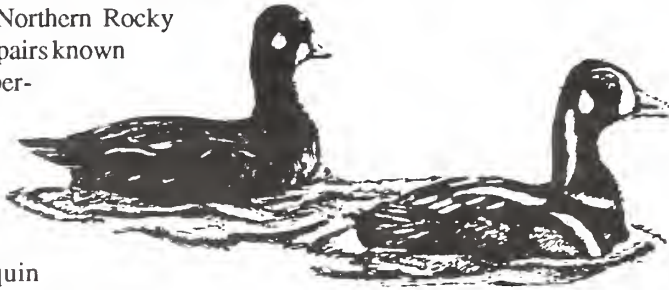
## Sensitive Species of the Northern Region

*This is the first in a series of articles featuring wildlife classified as "Sensitive" by the Northern Region.*

**T**he harlequin duck is a beautiful, secretive bird found in mountainous streams of Montana and Idaho. It is one of the rarest breeding birds in the Northern Rocky Mountains, with 10-20 pairs known to occur in Idaho and perhaps twice that number in Montana - prior to last field season.

Unlike any other North American waterfowl, the harlequin duck breeds in mountain streams and winters in coastal bays. In mountain streams, harlequin's feed on insects and algae. They are excellent swimmers and even the very young paddle effortlessly in rushing streams. Yet, because harlequins are rare and believed to have declined in numbers, they have been classified as "sensitive" by the Northern Region and "endangered" by the State of Montana.

With only 3 recorded sightings during the past 20 years, the harlequin duck was barely more than a rumor on the Rocky Mountain District in 1989. Yet, while monitoring the effects of the '88 fires on fish populations, we observed harlequins with startling frequency. To insure that this was not a freak occurrence, I contacted the local state fisheries biologist, Bill Hill. Bill re-



vealed that he had been regularly observing harlequins on the District since 1971. The cat was out of the bag!

I wasn't satisfied with simply knowing

that we had harlequins. I wanted to know how many and where. To answer these questions, wildlife technician Pat Finnegan and wildlife volunteer Katy Hackett spent 20 days slogging through creeks last summer. In addition, trail crews and wilderness rangers were on the lookout for harlequins.

The hard work of the field people paid off. By the end of the field season, it was clear that the Rocky Mountain District supported the largest population of harlequins in the northern Rockies. We observed 122 harlequins on 8 streams. The largest concentration of harlequins was in the Sun River drainage where 92 ducks were spotted. Another harlequin concentration area was the Badger Creek drainage, just south of Glacier National Park. We observed at least

13 and possibly as many as 22 different broods (potential duplicate sightings of the same brood make an exact tally impossible). Typically there were 3-4 ducklings in each brood. However, there were several broods with up to 8 ducklings.

None of our harlequin observations were made on streams adjacent to roads, confirming the notion that harlequins are creatures of pristine environments. However, we did observe harlequins in surprising locations. Harlequins have typically been thought to occupy whitewater sections of large streams like the Lochsa, Flathead, and Priest Rivers. In fact, past harlequin surveys have excluded all rivers less than 30 feet wide. On the Rocky Mountain District, we frequently found harlequins using small streams, several less than 6 feet wide. Further, we rarely observed harlequins in turbulent "whitewater." Instead, they seemed to prefer relatively calm stretches of riffles and runs. Obviously, we still have quite a bit to learn about the habitat needs of the harlequin duck.

Probably the most important lesson we learned from our work with harlequins is that undiscovered wildlife populations exist right outside our door. Safaris to the Amazon and Africa are unnecessary. What is necessary is devoting the time and money to uncovering the hidden secrets that still remain on each of our national forests.

### Bitterroot National Forest

## National Hispanic Month Celebrated in Good Taste

*by Elaine Barringer, Information Receptionist,  
Trapper Creek JCC*

**A**n authentic Hispanic meal served at Trapper Creek Job Corps Center on September 19 was a highlight of National Hispanic Month on the Bitterroot National Forest. Forest employees and their families were invited to join the staff and enrollees for the dinner.

The dining room was decorated with an Hispanic theme, including a Mexican flag. The traditional Mexican meal was planned and cooked by Trapper Creek culinary arts students. Job Corps enrollees, Center staff and approximately 20 Forest employees enjoyed the meal.



*Hispanic dinner cooks (Trapper Creek Job Corps members and staff cook, Jeannie Bibler).*

## Missoula Aerial Fire Depot

**S**mokejumping in Mongolia? Forest fire suppression in the homeland of Ghengis Khan had hardly been a hot topic of discussion in these parts. However, in August, Dave Pierce of Missoula Technology Development Center



*Dave Pierce of Missoula Technology Development Center demonstrates the parachute simulator to Mongolian firefighters.*

(MTDC) and Bruce Ford of Missoula's Aerial Fire Depot (AFD) traveled there to help install a parachute simulator for the Mongolian Aerial

## **The Mongolian Connection**

*by Bruce Ford, Smopkejumper, Missoula Aerial Fire Depot*

Fire Protection Service.

The simulator, consisting of a computer and associated graphics program, was developed by MTDC and Systems Technology Inc., a California software company. U.S. smokejumpers use it as a training tool to teach the techniques of parachute maneuvering, an essential skill for landing safely in small forest clearings. The simulator, operated by toggles similar to the steering toggles of a real parachute, accurately mimics the performance characteristics of the smokejumper chute. It also offers a wide selection of wind condition scenarios and other jump situation options.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization purchased a simulator for Mongolia, and Bob Mutch of International Forestry expedited export approval and enlisted Dave and Bruce to help install it.

Mongolia, a land of vast steppes, deserts, and forests, is sandwiched between China and the Soviet Union. Fierce spring winds blowing from Siberia create extreme fire conditions, particularly on the grassy steppes of central and eastern Mongolia. These steppes are largely inhabited by nomadic herders who follow the seasonal pastures, pitching their round, felt-covered yurts at each new location.

The Aerial Fire Protection Service was founded in 1969 and now employs about 130 firefighters, trained both in smokejumping and helicopter rappelling. Techniques and equipment are derived largely from the Russian firefighting program. The firefighters, a lusty lot raised on wrestling and fermented mare's milk, are very experienced parachutists, and took quickly to the simulator.

Jeff Hogue of Systems Technology, the third member of the team, set up the simulator and slightly modified the program to fit the Mongolian chute. Dave and Bruce gave training in operation of the simulator and, as time permitted, observed and took notes on the Mongolian firefighting program.

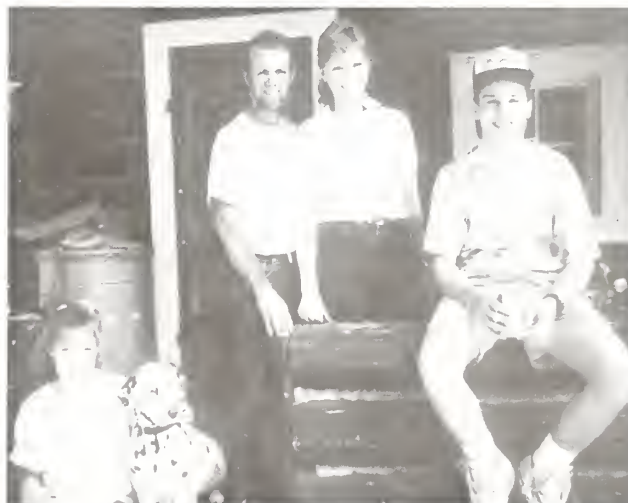
The Mongolians proved to be very congenial hosts, and treated their American guests to tours of the local countryside and Buddhist monasteries, including a night in a yurt and sampling of the famous "airak," or fermented horse milk. Mongolia is currently undergoing political liberalization, much as the Eastern European countries are, and is increasingly opening to the West. Members of the Fire Protection Service expressed a keen desire to continue contacts with their counterparts here in the U.S.

## Gallatin National Forest

## **Adventures of a "Wilderness Family"**

*by Dave Cary, Outdoor Recreation Planner*

**T**he Kendrick family of Fairbanks, Alaska, volunteered a portion of their summer in the Spanish Peaks Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness on Bozeman Ranger District. Under the supervision of Wilderness Ranger John Brandon, the family spent six weeks maintaining trails and trailheads, rehabilitating overused campsites, and providing visitors information about regulations and low impact camping techniques. Their weeks involved day-long and extended overnight trips throughout the wilderness and the surrounding area. The Forest Service provided the historic Spanish Creek Ranger Station, adjacent to the northern boundary of the wilderness, as their temporary living



quarters. Their contribution of hundreds of hours of volunteer labor was a great asset to the District's wilderness management program.

*The "Wilderness Family": Megan, Moka, Chuck, Susan, and Bracken at Spanish Creek Ranger Station.*



Wise Use of  
Your Natural  
Resources

*The Centennial Year of the Forest Service, 1991, is here!! In light of that event, we will begin a series of articles, provided by the Chief's Office History Unit, describing the early beginnings of our agency. This is the first article of the series.*

**A**lmost one-hundred years ago, on March 3, 1891, Congress empowered the President to set aside forest reserves out of public lands. This mini-history tells of one aspect of the origins of the conservation movement that led to this legislation.

The book *Man and Nature*, which was published in 1864 by George Perkins Marsh, can be called the first environmental history and one of the sources of the conservation movement. Marsh drew on the past to illustrate how human actions had harmed the earth and led to the demise of earlier civilizations. Marsh wanted not only to warn his contemporaries against this fate, but also to inspire measures to prevent it. One prevention measure that Marsh advocated was forest protection.

George Marsh's concern for nature arose first from his childhood play in the forests near Woodstock, Vermont, where he was

## Our Beginnings

### A History of the Forest Service

by Terry West, Forest Service Historian, Washington Office

born in 1801. He was a bookish youth who was plagued with eye problems that forced him cease reading for periods throughout his life; nature thus became his other teacher. Born to a well-to-do family, he was educated at Harvard and Dartmouth, and spent his life in public service; his positions included Congressman for Vermont in the U.S. House of Representatives, Minister to Turkey, and Fish Commissioner of Vermont.

Marsh was a wide-ranging scholar who relied on common sense observations in his work. His first-hand observation of the rapid harvesting of Vermont forests led to his blaming the decline of fish upon this practice. Thus he began to note the relationship of soil, water, and plant cover that he wrote of later in *Man and Nature*.

Within two decades of the book's publication, several scientific activists advocated forest reserves in the U.S. to conserve timber and reduce floods. Among these influential lobbyists of Congress were Franklin B. Hough and Bernhard Fernow. Fernow is credited as a drafter of the Forest Reserve Act of 1891.

### Lolo National Forest

## Lions, Tigers, and Bears

by Rolly Ortegon, Resource Assistant, Seeley Lake Ranger District

**L**ions, tigers, and bears..., well not exactly, but how about eagles, snakes, loons, wolves, and bears! Visitors to Seeley Lake Ranger District learned about these animals and more last summer, through a new program called the Seeley Lake Interpretive Program. All that was needed was a lawn chair and you could meet these animals up close and personal!

The program debuted at the Big Larch campground, and judging from public interest, has a promising future. Resource Assistant Rolly Ortegon piloted a program of volunteer speakers. Programs were held on Wednesday and Saturday evenings from July through August. Many of the topics centered on wildlife themes, promoting the Region's "Watchable Wildlife" program. Live animals or study skins were on hand to share with the audience, captivating the attention of all age groups. Audiences ranged from just a few individuals, to over 60 participants who handled reptiles for the first time. They were provided by reptile expert, Sam Mano.

Volunteers from the Regional Office, Lolo National Forest Supervisor's Office, Seeley Lake District, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife



"Pass the snake, please." Children get a first-hand look at a real snake.

Service, as well as local talents from the Missoula area, graciously donated their time and energy speaking to groups outdoors, rain or shine. As the word got out, public participation increased and many people made arrangements to catch the next show. Several comments were heard, like "We didn't know the Forest Service did these kind of things... it's about time they did!" and "Who can we talk or write to so these presentations continue?"

Ortegon hopes to invest more time developing all aspects of the interpretive program for next summer. The public is very interested in seeking out good in-

terpretive programs and this is an area the Forest Service can make enormous contributions. One reflection of that interest is articles featured by the Missoulian, Great Falls Tribune, and the Seeley Lake newspapers.

So, fit it into your summer plans for next summer! If the fish aren't biting or you're looking for something different, come enjoy a beautiful evening on the lake and learn something about the world we share.

## Personnel Actions

### BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

BEER, JEFFREY, whse trng instr, Trapper Creek JCC, cash award  
BENDER, CLARENCE, trng tech, Trapper Creek JCC, retirement  
CARLSON, LARRY, frstr tech, Stevensville RD, cash award  
CLEVELAND, REN, mtnce mech, SO, retirement  
CONNER, DENI, compr asst, Darby RD, cash award  
CRAWFORD, TOM, frstr tech, Sula RD, cash award  
DeBARBER, JOHN, frstr tech, West Fork RD, cash award  
ESCHENBACHER, BEN, teacher, Trapper Creek JCC, cash award  
FEARS, JAMES, frstr tech, Stevensville RD, cash award  
GIBSON, NANCY, resource clk, Stevensville RD, cash award  
GORDON, DENNIS, soil sci, Sula RD, cash award  
GOSLIN, WILLIAM, frstr tech, Stevensville RD, cash award  
GUINARD, TIM, frstr tech, Sula RD, cash award  
HIATT, LINDA, frstr tech, West Fork RD, cash award  
HINMAN, LENNY, frstr tech, Darby RD, cash award  
HINMAN, TERRY, resource clk, Darby RD, cash award  
HUNT, CLOYCE, frstr tech, Dardy RD, belt buckle award and retirement  
JEFFRIES, JERRY, safety & occupl hlth mgr, SO, reassign, RO, A&FM  
JONES, LARRY, const inspr, SO, employee suggn, cash award  
KING, LINDA, clk typ, R-4, Salmon NF, Cobalt RD, prom, resour clk, West Fork RD  
KOWACK, MARK, guidance cnslr, Trapper Creek JCC, belt buckle award  
KRESAN, TOM, frstr tech, Stevensville RD, cash award  
LEVIN, GREG, frstr tech, West Fork RD, cash award  
LUBKE, TONY, frstr tech, West Fork RD, cash award  
MAIS, MARILYN, hydrol aid, SO, cash award  
MARSH, SHIRLEY, pers asst, SO, cash award  
MERKEL, RAY, supv voc trng instr, Trapper Creek JCC, cash award  
MILLER, BILL, frstr tech, West Fork RD, cash award  
MORLOCK, PATTE, purchsg agt, SO, employee suggn, cash award  
SMITH, RON, teacher, Trapper Creek JCC, retirement  
SNYDER, PAUL, frstr tech, Stevensville RD, cash award  
SPOUSE, LARRY, frstr, West Fork RD, cash award and resignation  
STANICH, CHARLES, frstr tech, Stevensville RD, cash award  
SWANSON, RICK, fish biol, Lolo NF, reassignment, SO  
TOMPKINS, GEORGE, frstr, Darby RD, belt buckle award and retirement  
WHITTLESEY, GAYLE, frstr tech, Stevensville RD, cash award  
WILEY, DON, frstr tech, West Fork RD, cash award  
WOFFORD, PRENTIS, teacher, Trapper Creek JCC, cash award  
WRIGHT, RODGERS, frstr tech, West Fork RD, cash award

### CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

BECK, CRYSTAL, suprt srvc supvr, Lochsa RD, cash award  
BONZAGNI, DONNA, frstry tech, Powell RD, cash award  
DESROCHES, LARRY, frstr, Pierce RD, retirement  
FOSTER, GAYLE, pers clk, SO, reassign  
FRENCH, LARRY, frstry tech, Palouse RD, cash award  
GOOKIN, DENNIS, frstry tech, Palouse RD, cash award  
GRASHAM, JOHN, frstry tech, Palouse RD, cash award  
GRIFFITH, DENNIS, frstr, Lochsa RD, cash award  
HARVEY, KAREN, wldlf bio, North Fork RD, reassign, Dist bio, Powell RD  
HILLS, ROGER, civ eng tech, Palouse RD, retirement  
MEEK, JUDY, res asst, Palouse RD, cash award  
OLSEN, JANIE, reinstatement to info recp, Palouse RD  
PERRY, KRISTINA, frstry tech, Lochsa RD, cash award  
RIEMAN, JEANNE, pers clerk, SO, promotion to pers asst  
ROUNDS, BRENDA, res clerk, Palouse RD, cash award  
SCHULTZ, GALE, frstry tech, Palouse RD, cash award  
SCOLES, ROY, frstry techncn, Palouse RD, retirement, cash award

STEINER, RANDY, clk typ, SO, comp promotion, payroll clerk, SO  
STOTTS, BRIAN, wldlf bio, North Fork RD, temp prom, Lochsa RD  
THOMPSON, MARILYN, acctg tech, SO, reassign  
WELLS, JAMES, frstry tech, Palouse RD, cash award  
WHITNEY, WESLEY J., elctron tech, conv to career cond appt, SO  
WILSON, KENDA, pers clerk, SO, promotion to pers asst  
WYNN, LAUREL, supv pers asst, SO, promotion

### CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

GUMP, ROBERT, frstr, Ashland RD, reassign, Deerlodge NF  
PRIEVE, STEVE, supvry info resource mgr, Medora RD to Kootenai NF, prom  
ROBBINS, BARBARA, budg & acctg, SO, award

### HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

BEEHLER, KAREN, SSS, Lincoln RD, promotion  
FISHER, DAVE, TM Zone Staff Officer, Nez Perce NF, reassign, SO  
GEORGIO, KARYL, budg & acctg, Unita NF to SO, promotion  
GIBSON, TAMMY, assist FMO, Lincoln RD to Six Rivers NF, promotion  
KAFENTZIS, BETTY, acctg tech, SO, 30 yr retirement  
RUDOLF, SUZANN, clk typ, Helena RD, reassign  
THOMPSON, DIANE, SSS, SO, reassign, Lolo NF

### IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

ALDRICH, DAVE, cash award, SO  
BACKMAN, MARGARET, cash award, Feman RD  
DORRELL, JACK, cash award, Feman RD  
ERICKSON, ANLO, exc appt, SCSEP enrollee, Feman RD  
McPHERSON, TAMMY, cash award, Priest Lake RD  
POLICHIO, PEGGY, frstr, reassign, supv frstr, Feman RD  
RAFTERY, JAMES, purch agnt, promotion, SO  
RIDGE, DIETRA, supv vouch exam, promotion, SO  
SMITH, JUDY, frstr, promotion, supv frstr, Cd'A Nursery  
TRUJILLO, JUDY, frstry aid, promotion, frstry tech, Avery RD  
WALLACE, JAMES, cash award, Feman RD

### LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

ALLISON, GARY, surv tech, SO, promotion, hydrol tech, SO  
BROWN, DOUG, frstry tech, Rocky Mtn RD, cash award  
DENNIS, DIANE, financial assist, SO, promotion  
DIAMOND, SETH, wldlf biol, Rocky Mtn RD, temp promotion  
DOBB, LARRY, rge tech, Musselshell RD, cash award  
EASTERLY, THERESA, resource clk, Rocky Mtn RD, cash award  
FINNEGAN, PATRICK, biol tech, Rocky Mtn RD, cash award  
FOWLER, DONALD, frstry tech, Musselshell RD, cash award  
FRIDDLE, MARY, W., frstry tech, Gallatin NF, conversion to cc appt, Judith RD  
GASKILL, BARBARA, supp serv supvr, Musselshell RD, promotion  
GREER, ANDREA, pers clk, SO, cash award  
HERTEL, JACQUELINE, budg & fin officer, SO, cash award  
HOUSEMAN, DOLORES, purch agnt, SO, suggestion award & promotion  
MARCERON, TERESA, frstr, SO, cash award  
MARTIN, RAY A., frstry tech, Musselshell RD, cash award & retire  
MCBRATNEY, BRAD, rge con, Rocky Mtn RD, temp promotion  
MOUSEL, DAVID, rge tech, Musselshell RD, cash award  
OSEN, THOMAS, rge conserv, Judith RD, cash award  
OSEN, THOMAS, rge conserv, Judith RD, suggestion award  
RASH, ELDON, rge tech, Musselshell RD, cash award  
REYNOLDS, DARWIN, frstry tech, Musselshell RD, cash award  
SCHAEFFER, DALE, civ eng, SO, cash award  
STOHTART, ROBERT, frstry tech, Musselshell RD, cash award  
WIDDICOMBE, MICHAEL, frstry tech, Musselshell RD, cash award

## In Memoriam

**C. Merle Hofferber**, who retired in 1981 as Assistant Regional Forester for Lands & Minerals in Region Six, died November 17 in Portland. Hofferber served on the Helena, Lolo, Coeur d'Alene, Deerlodge and St. Joe National Forests in Region One. From 1961 to 1968 he was assigned to the R-1 Regional Office, Recreation & Lands.

**Mary Bowler**, former Forest Service employee in Missoula and Sandpoint, died November 24 at St. Luke's Community Nursing Home at age 78.

**Stanley Lukens**, former Forest Service ranger died July 6, 1990 at the age of 90. He served as ranger (1925) at Districts on the Beaverhead, Lolo, and Deerlodge NFs. He retired in 1951 because of injuries received in World War I.

**Ken Willard**, warehouseman for the Missoula Aerial Fire Depot since 1977, died of an apparent heart attack on December 13. He was 43.

## Retirements

**Arlen Roll**, assistant director of Personnel Management in the Regional Office will retire in January after 30 years with the Forest Service. Roll began his career on the Flathead NF, then worked in the R1 Regional Office for 5 years, preceding a promotion to the personnel management staff in the Washington Office. Since 1967, he has served in a variety of assignments in the Regional Office.

In 1987, Roll received a USDA Superior Service Award, and a Special Act Award from the National Civil Rights Committee. He established the Northern Region Native American Program and helped Haskell Indian Junior College develop a natural resource program. He worked to help Indian students gain education and employment in the natural resource field.

## Afghan Adds \$150 to Combined Federal Campaign

by Jeanne Spooner, Public Affairs Specialist



**D**el Goss, Kootenai National Forest fire specialist, was the high bidder at \$150.00 for a beautiful crocheted white afghan that was auctioned off for the Combined Federal Campaign at the Kootenai National Forest fund-raiser on October 19.

What was so different about this afghan? To begin with, it was made by Linda Park, wife of Jerry Park, Forest timber sales officer, and donated for the auction. But the outstanding feature of this work of art was the design: a Forest Service emblem shaped like a badge, done in green and yellow-gold, placed in the center of the coverlet. Spaced at the top and bottom were eight brown smokey bear faces and four green trees. The vertical ribbing was complemented by District names crocheted in yellow. Completing the four by five and half-foot afghan were a fringed top and bottom.

Many other items were donated to the auction, which raised over \$2,000. The Combined Federal Campaign raises funds for charities as part of the United Way drive. Overall, Kootenai National Forest employees contributed a total of more than \$8,000 this year through efforts such as pot lucks, auctions, personal donations and other-fund raising activities. This makes them the second largest contributor to the Combined Federal Campaign in Lincoln County.

*This beautiful afghan was crocheted by Linda Park, wife of Jerry Park, Kootenai NF timber sales officer, as a donation to the CFC fund-raiser auction. Standing beside it is high bidder, Del Goss, Kootenai NF fire specialist.*

### The Northern Region News

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